**Lesson 2: Green Kids and Recycling**

**Recycling and How it Keeps Habitats Healthy**

**Level:** Rising Grades K - 5

**Time:** 1 55 minute lesson

**Overview/Purpose:**

This lesson will introduce students to the concept of recycling. Students will explore how recycling impacts the environment. These ideas will be linked to our previous investigation of endangered animals and the habitats they live in.

**Content Objectives:**  
To awaken an awareness in students that the natural world is not to be taken for granted and treated with disrespect, but it is something to be valued and protected. The objective of this lesson is to explore with the students why recycling is important. We also would like to discuss what materials can and cannot be recycled. Students should be able to discuss what recycling is and what students can do to make an impact on environmental conservation.  
  
**Technology Standards**:  
**NETS**

1. Creativity and Innovation

b. create original works as a means of personal or group expression.

d. identify trends and forecast possibilities.

2. Communication and Collaboration

c. develop cultural understanding and global awareness by engaging with learners of other cultures.

4. Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, and Decision Making

a. identify and define authentic problems and significant questions for investigation.

**Technology Objectives:**

None planned for this lesson

**Technology Required:**Computers with Internet  
Computer projector or interactive white board

**Resources/Websites:**

Materials, links and other items the students will use in the lesson

* Magical Tote Bag project – instructions and video <http://familyfun.go.com/crafts/cereal-box-tote-bag-669871>
* Recycling video – ***Litterbug***, featuring Carlos the Caterpillar <http://www.carloscaterpillar.com/episodes/litterbug>
* ***Green World Eco Facts*** sheet
* Book: ***Do Martians Recycle?*** By Sharon Gribbin-Lindemon (Purchase this book online at <http://search.barnesandnoble.com/Do-Martians-Recycle/Sharon-Gribbin-Lindemon/e/9781449037499> or borrow it from your school or local library)
* Recycled empty cereal boxes (1 per student)
* Glitter – large container
* Mod Podge (decoupage medium) – 6 large 8 oz. containers, gloss finish
* Recycled magazines and catalogs
* Box of 50 pairs of plastic gloves (non-latex to avoid allergy issues)
* 1” foam brushes (1 per student)
* Newspapers to cover tables
* Scissors – about 12 pairs, 6 regular and 6 kid friendly safety styles.
* Recycled small bowls or containers to pour Modge Podge into for ease of use
* Small square bin or box (to use to catch excess glitter when sprinkling glitter on totes)
* 30 plain canvas grocery bags donated by a parent.
* Handout for parents about students bringing in recyclable items for a project on the last day of camp

**Prior Knowledge:**

Students will already know how to... be able to...

* Work with basic craft supplies like scissors and paint brushes
* Follow simple instructions for a craft project

**Procedure:**

Prior to lesson, librarian will:

* Cut top section off cereal boxes
* Cut one elongated oval on each side of the cereal box for the handhold
* Cover tables with newspaper
* Set out bowls of Mod Podge
* Set out piles of magazines and catalogs
* Set out 1 foam brush for each student
* Set out 1 pre-cut cereal box for each student
* Queue up the video

**Day 3**

Introduction (5 minutes)

1. Tell students that they will be learning about recycling today. They will make a useful craft using recycled materials while they watch a fun video about how keeping the environment clean helps everyone stay healthy.

Instruction (15 minutes)

1. We will talk about what recycling means to the students.
2. Share facts off the ***Green World Eco Facts*** sheet
3. The librarian will read the story ***Do Martians Recycle?*** By Sharon Gribbin-Lindemon to the students
4. Students will then collaborate as a class and create their definition of recycling. Each session will write their definition on the smart board.
5. Students take a seat at the craft tables which are all set up with supplies.
6. The librarians tell the students that they will be using recycled materials to make an item that they can take home and use. It is a *Magical Tote Bag*. The magic comes from the glitter, which is sprinkled on at the end.
7. Leaders read the directions for the *Magical Tote Bag* craft from the website of Family Fun (<http://familyfun.go.com/crafts/cereal-box-tote-bag-669871> ). Students also see a sample of the finished craft.
8. Students are also informed that a fun video about recycling will be played for them to watch while they make the craft. The video is called “***Litterbug***”.

Student Activity (30 minutes)

1. Students are instructed to begin the craft.
2. The video is started.

Assessment (5 minutes)

1. Using guided inquiry the following questions will be discussed by the students and leaders:

Do you think the bugs in the video live in a habitat?  
 Do endangered animals need to have a safe clean habitat too?

1. Class revisits the definition of recycling that they wrote at the beginning of the class. Is there anything that they would like to add or change?
2. The definitions from each session will be printed and posted for tomorrow.
3. Students are asked to bring in recyclable items from home for a project on the last day of camp (A handout will be given to students at the end of the day to take home to parents)

**Extensions:**

1. In addition to making a magical tote bag, students who would like to continue “creating” can decorate a canvas "green" grocery bag.

**Modifications:**

1. Aides or leaders can provide one-on-one assistance for campers that need assistance with the completion of their craft project.
2. Plastic gloves will be available for campers who prefer not to get glue on their hands.